

2025 UTEP Public Health Practicum

Supporting Work Based Learning Opportunities for Public Health Students

A background graphic of a network diagram with various sized circles connected by lines, set against a dark blue gradient.

A collaboration in support of public health opportunities between Workforce Solutions Borderplex, UTEP, PHIX, and the Food FARMacy

About the Internship Opportunity

To support two important public health and food security programs in the borderland, Workforce Solutions Borderplex partnered with the UTEP Public Health department to place interns with PHIX and El Pasoans Fighting Hunger's Food FARMacy in support of important public health research. Students had the opportunity to research and educate on food scarcity topics among low-income families in El Paso. Workforce Solutions Borderplex subsidized practicum placements in order to support the students participating in the internship opportunity.

UTEP's Public Health Program

The public health program at UTEP is dedicated to training and educating future public health workers, researchers, and educators. UTEP offers both a bachelor's and a master's in public health, taught by highly qualified faculty with real-world experience in the field. Graduates and faculty frequently return to work in the community, supporting all aspects of public health in the borderland.

About PHIX and the Food FARMacy

Workforce Solutions Borderplex was proud to support two nonprofits making a difference in the realms of public health and food security in the El Paso community.

- PHIX is a nonprofit dedicated to improving health in the borderland through the use of data technology. PHIX works to promote data sharing between hospitals, clinics, public health organizations, laboratories, and more to reduce hospital readmissions and reduce repeat procedures.
- An initiative of the El Pasoans Fighting Hunger, the Food FARMacy works to support nutrition and food security in the borderland through dietary education, helping individuals to lead healthier lives.

Successes & Outcomes



Not only did students have the opportunity to support public health and food scarcity research in the community, but they also gained relevant skills and experiences to support them in their career development. All in all, all parties were pleased with the effort and look forward to collaborating and expanding the program in the future.

Spring 2025 Internships

Undergraduate public health students completed internships with both PHIX and the Food FARMacy. Workforce Solutions Borderplex provided salaries at \$15 an hour for 160 hours for two interns, one placed at PHIX and the other placed at the Food FARMacy.

Summer 2025 Internships

Workforce Solutions Borderplex also supported two graduate public health students for the Summer 2025 semester. Both students were placed at PHIX but also collaborated with the Food FARMacy to support data collection and data entry efforts. WSB subsidized salaries at \$15 per hour for 240 hours.